

Quick Read

In general

Important transition briefings

If you're active duty and soon to retire, attend the April 30 briefing at the U.S. NATO transition office. A Veterans Administration briefing is also scheduled for the same day. Sign up by calling DSN 423-4575.

Belgium

Scholarships

Applications for the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity and for Consignment Shop scholarships are now available in the BAS Guidance Office. The deadlines for applications are April 1, 5 and May 1. Deadline for the Journalism/Communications scholarship is April 30.

Spring Bazaar

The SHAPE American High School will host a Spring Bazaar March 29 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and March 30 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the SHAPE International School Cafeteria. More than 40 international vendors from around Europe will offer everything from Turkish rugs to Russian Dolls. For more information call Meri Ellis at civ 065-569423.

Easter Egg Hunt

The Brussels American Community will have an Easter egg hunt April 19, 10 a.m. to noon at Sterrebeek. Children under 12 are invited. Volunteers can call Special Events Coordinator Lisa Passalacqua at DSN 368 9639. The Easter bunny will also throw out the first pitch for YS baseball.

Netherlands and Germany

Charity night

Five celebrity DJs from British Forces Broadcast Service will be on hand April 4 at the International Inn to celebrate Charity 70's Night sponsored by the AFNorth International Club. Tickets are on sale at UK Delegation Support Unit coffee shop or from national delegations at AFNorth.

Bowling

Army Europe Bowling Championship Roll Off, March 28, noon, at the Schinnen Bowling Center. The winner will represent the 254th BSB in the Army Europe Bowling Championship April 23-25.

Spring Breezes

The American Women of Geilenkirchen are having their Spring Breezes Bazaar, March 28, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and March 29, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. with lots of food, refreshments and vendors. On March 29 the Girl Scout Troop 230 will host an Activity Camp for young children (not infants) in the Bavarian Keller (across the parking lot from the Old Gym). The camp will be open 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and donations are accepted. There is a two hour limit for child drop off with parents remaining on the premises.

Entertainment

Singer/songwriter/storyteller Hank Slaughter performs live at the AFNorth Club 13, Mondays at 8 p.m.

PowerPoint rangers

The third quarter automation training schedule is out, PowerPoint 2000 Introduction is offered April 1 and PowerPoint 2000 advanced on April 2. Call John Parton at DSN 360-7620.

Jobs

The Schinnen Commissary has job openings in the Deli Department, call Harriette Blokepoel civ 046-443-7516 and also needs baggers, call Gayle Phillips civ 045-439-8390.

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*Plus community
calendars, events and
much more*

Benelux Meteor

Volume 21, Number 6

March 25, 2003

Stay alert, stay alive

HEIDELBERG, Germany – According to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the recent increase in reported cases of individuals conducting surveillance in the United States and Europe indicates possible targeting by terrorists.

Prompt reporting of suspicious activities may prevent a terrorist attack.

Terrorists conduct surveillance to determine a target's suitability for attack by assessing the capabilities of existing security and discerning weaknesses in that facility.

After identifying weaknesses, they plan their attack at the point of greatest vulnerability. Because terrorists must conduct surveillance-often over a period of weeks, months, or years-detection of their activities is possible.

Regardless of their level of expertise, terrorists invariably make mistakes.

Knowing what to look for and being able to distinguish the ordinary from the extraordinary are the key elements to successful surveillance detection.

Force protection personnel ask that anyone who observes any of the following behavior report it immediately to the military police.

- ✓ Multiple sightings of the same suspicious person, vehicle, or activity, separated by time, distance, or direction.

- ✓ Individuals who stay at bus or train stops for extended periods while buses and trains come and go.

- ✓ Individuals who order food at a restaurant and leave before the food arrives or who order without eating.

- ✓ Individuals who carry on long conversations on pay or cellular telephones.

- ✓ Joggers who stand and stretch

for an inordinate amount of time.

- ✓ Individuals sitting in a parked car for an extended period of time.

- ✓ Individuals who don't fit into the surrounding environment because they are wearing improper attire for the location or season.

- ✓ Individuals drawing pictures or taking notes in an area not normally of interest to a tourist or showing unusual interest in or photographing security cameras, guard locations, or watching security reaction drills and procedures.

As the frequency of anti-war demonstrations throughout Europe increase, it is essential that U.S. personnel be aware of where and when these demonstrations are scheduled to take place and avoid them whenever possible.

A listing of upcoming demonstrations can be found on the United States Army, Europe website at www.hqusareur.army.mil.

Upon reaching that website go to the Force Protection link, and then to Upcoming Demonstrations.

Information about the P.A.U.S.E. program, the 80th ASG force protection information program that stands for be Prepared, Alert, Unpredictable, Secure and Exercise caution, can be found at www.80asg.army.mil.

Reports of scheduled demonstrations and force protection "post its" are available at the new web page.

Force protection "post its" and advisories are airing on American Forces Network radio and television daily.

A telephone hotline at civ 068-276210 with information about the most current travel advisories is available.

In addition, the marquee in front of the Chièvres Activities Center at the air base will begin displaying some force protection tips and travel advisories.



PHOTO: Troy Darr

Air Force Master Sgt. Bill Smith plays the trombone during the "Celebrating a Century of Legends" in African-American Classical Music performance at Daumerie Caserne. Smith is the noncommissioned officer in charge of the Jazz Messengers

Inside Brussels

March 25, 2003

Brussels teen selected as outstanding youth

BRUSSELS, Belgium — Morgan Duke, a member of the NATO Support Activity Child and Youth Services, earned the title United States Army Europe Outstanding Youth of the Year 2003.

A senior at Brussels American School, Duke is both an outstanding scholar and athlete who has shown leadership, performed volunteer service and demonstrated high moral character in our community, said Jill C. Woodworth-Collier, Teen Center Director.

She was evaluated by judges in Stuttgart, Germany along with representatives of the other six area support groups in Europe on the basis of her essays, her interviews and her oral presentation as well as on written information describing her accomplishments written by Woodworth-Collier.

Her competition began at the NATO Sup-

port Activity level on Jan. 13 in a series of six interviews with local judges. When she was chosen for first place, she was next sent to the ASG-level competition which was hosted in Brussels on Feb. 11.

Duke again finished in first place. The latest competition took place on March 7 with the results announced on March 12 after the judges' votes were tabulated.

Duke will represent U. S. Army Europe in competition against the Navy/Marine and Air Force Youth of the Year candidate in late April or early May.

She plans to attend college and study chemical engineering, although she has not yet chosen a college, according to Leslie Wallace, work force preparation coordinator.

"It's a very prestigious contest," said Wallace. "It's a lot of hard work, and she has done a great

job. I'm quite proud of her."

The purpose of the Youth of the Year Boys and Girls Clubs of America program is to promote character development, leadership and community service and to focus on educational and life goals.

"We try and find teens between 14 and 19 who are members of our YS and start grooming them for our Youth of the Year Competition," said Wallace.

The process of compiling a written packet and seeking letters of recommendation, preparing interview skills and public speaking are meant to enhance the participant's career readiness skills.

The Outstanding Youth of the Year celebrates the contributions of teens and is open to registered CYC members in ages 14 and up.

The two other competitors at NSA were Zaronda Watson and Sandra Peyton.



Morgan Duke

Courtesy Photo

A Celebration of Diversity

BRUSSELS, Belgium — The fifth annual International Dinner and Show, sponsored by the Brussels American School PTSO, was a sellout with approximately 300 people in attendance.

This event is a major fund-raiser for student scholarships and numerous other educational events.

Guests enjoyed traditional delicacies from around the world, including Belarus, Turkey, Afghanistan, Greece and the Philippines.

The Brussels American Community Band kicked off the show with "Invicta" and "Back to the Fifties."

Steve and Rosalba Nelson along with Jose and Maribel Sierra had the house rocking to "La Bamba" with a Mexican courtship dance.

The "Mountaineers" performed traditional and not so traditional barber-shop quartet music, including the "Belgian Commune Blues."

The Nelsons were back on stage with "Jarabe Tapitio," the Mexican Hat Dance and were followed by the Brussels American Community Chorus, directed by Susan Woodson.



Steve and Rosalba Nelson perform a hat dance during the Annual International dinner and show.

rected by Susan Woodson.

Jeff Oppenheim swooned the audience with "Wherever You Will Go" and "Big Yellow Taxi."

The crowd was then entertained with traditional Belarus Folklore Music.

The last performance of the night featured traditional Philippine dances including the Philippine national dance, "Tinikling," in which dancers maneuver gracefully between large bamboo poles.

Comedy duo to thump 3 Star Lounge

BRUSSELS, Belgium — Armed Forces Entertainment offers the Hack and Slash Sword Fighting Comedy Show at the NATO Support Activity 3 Star Lounge April 5 at 9 p.m.

Hack and Slash is a two-man, comedy and sword fighting show that has performed more than 3,000 times all over the world in the last 10 years.

Hack and Slash is a family show. There is some double entendre, but the show never goes beyond a PG rating.

The event is free for all U.S. ID card holders.

For more information about this medieval, dynamic duo check out their website at members.aol.com/slashm/contents.htm.

BRUSSELS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

ACS

NSA will host a Parent University on child health and welfare April 14-17. Call ACS at civ 02-217-9783 before April 10 sign up. Community Chorus practice every Monday evening from 7:30-9 p.m. at the NSA Chapel.

Community Band practice every Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. in the BAS Music Room.

Free tax service available from the Northern Law Center at NSA Building 4, Room 318 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. by appointment only, DSN 423-4868.

The Three Star Lounge plays first run movies every Thursday night at 7:15 p.m. Free popcorn provided.

Advanced Financial Seminar every Tuesday from 6-8 p.m. Call ACS at civ 02-717-9783 to sign up.

ACS Toddler Playgroup at the NSA Child and Youth Service Center every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon.

NSA Thrift Shop is holding a March Madness sale throughout March on all mark-down items.

In honor of Women's History Month, the NSA Library will have a special display of books during the month of March. For more information, contact the library at DSN 368-9791.

March 29-30: NSA Chapel Family Retreat, DSN 368-9677.

April 4: NSA National Prayer Breakfast with guest speaker Dave Roeber at NSA Chapel at 7 a.m.

April 4: NATO Prayer Luncheon with guest speaker, Dave Roeber, Vietnam veteran, at the NATO Staff Center at 12:30 p.m. RSVP by April 1. Cost is 14 euro at door. For more info, call DSN 368-9677.

April 5: Free DOD Show, Hack & Slash, Shakespearean Comedy Duo, at NSA Three Star Lounge starting at 9 p.m.

April 9: 80th ASG Religious Education Seminar at the NSA Chapel from 10:15 a.m. to 2 p.m., DSN 361-5842 for more info.

April 14-17: ACS "Parent University" workshop and classes on health and wellness topics for parents.

April 16: Town Hall Meeting at 6 p.m., NSA Conference Room.

April 17: Living Last Supper at the NSA Chapel at 7 p.m.

April 19: Community Easter Egg Hunt at

the Brussels American School from 10 a.m. to noon. The Easter Bunny will also throw the first pitch out for YS baseball.

April 20: Combined Easter Service at 10:30 a.m. at NSA Chapel.

April 25: Installation Volunteer Ceremony, time and place TBA.

April 28-30: NSA Newcomers Briefing, call ACS at civ 02-717-9783 to sign up.

May 5-16: Dutch Headstart Class at NSA Education Center from 9 a.m. to noon.

May 20: Teen Child Abuse Training from 6:15-8:15 p.m. at NSA CYC. The training is required for babysitter referral.

May 30: BAS Talent Show

Craft Shop

Ceramic classes now offered every Wednesday at the NSA Multi-craft shop. Basket weaving classes coming soon. For more information, contact Paul Davis at civ 02-717-9629.

Frame shop open Wednesdays and Thursdays 2-9 p.m., Fridays 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sundays noon to 6 p.m. Framing classes on Thursdays. Cost is \$30. Please phone and book ahead of time.

Woodwork shop open hours: Thursdays 1-5 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Woodworking safety classes are held on the open days at a cost of \$10. Please phone and book ahead of time.

Ceramic shop open hours: only open, at the moment once a week, Wednesdays noon-3 p.m. Ceramic classes are being held every Wednesday at a cost of \$15. Please phone and book ahead of time.

Are you interested in having the children's birthday party in the NSA Multi Craft Ceramic shop, have them paint & take home their own ceramic item, cost \$10 per child.

Basket weaving Classes are due to start back up end of March, beginning of April. For more information on any of the above items please call Paul Davis at DSN 368-9629.

School

Auditions for the annual talent show were held yesterday. Additional auditions are scheduled for tomorrow after school in the multi-purpose room.

The BAS PTSO Volunteer of the Month for March is Lynn Stanko. Her selfless service to the Snack Shack and the Helping Hands/ Good Behavior program is appreciated.

Adults edge out girls in basketball competition

BRUSSELS, Belgium — The Brussels community women's basketball team barely defeated the Lady Brigands 50-48 in the Battle of the Babes basketball competition sponsored by the Family Readiness Group March 1, at the Brussels American School.

The Lady Brigands were ahead at the half 28-20, but the tides quickly turned in the last quarter. With just 49 seconds left in the game, Lady Brigand Beth Bottesini dropped a 3 pointer to tie the game, bringing the crowd to their feet. Over the roar of the fans and with 10 seconds left on the game clock, Patty Dowling scored with a jump shot, breaking the tie and winning the game for the adults.



Courtesy Photo

Dorothy Whiteside, 2, maneuvers the ball by Clarissa Bottesini, 11.

School children host vernissage

BRUSSELS, Belgium — Kindergarteners and 5th graders at the American School here teamed up to produce an art show for the enjoyment and edification of their parents.

"Our school improvement program is focused on science and trying to relate the curricular areas in school to science," said Jo Ellen Carmoni, art teacher. "Kindergarten and fifth grade were studying the Jurassic period so I decided

to have them make dinosaurs."

The two classes split up the responsibilities for the project with the older children doing much of the research and both classes sharing construction responsibilities.

"The day of the vernissage, we showed pictures taken by Jim Ferris of the developmental stages of the project," said Carnione. "The parents came and looked at the dinosaurs."

"The children were able to have a museum experience. They were able to look at the pieces, talk about them, and show them to their parents."

Many of the parents brought snacks so that the vernissage was like a real art opening.

"March is Youth Art Month, and the focus is on the visual and performing arts," said Carmione. "This project was a way of highlighting this month."



PHOTO: Jim Ferris

A Brussels American School kindergartener puts the finishing touches on a dinosaur for an art exhibition.

Volunteer Voice



By Angelica Eger

Thank You Notes: The Volunteer's Paycheck

To quickly make a great impression, write a thank you note. Thank you are two of the rarest words volunteers hear and among the two words they want to hear most.

That's because a thank you tells someone that their work was appreciated and that they made a difference to the organization. Thank you is the only "pay" volunteers receive for their efforts.

But how often do we let an implied thank you do the job of a formal one? Unfortunately, volunteers are not mind readers; they don't always know when we appreciate their work.

Without a formal thank you, many volunteers feel their work is unappreciated and unnoticed.

Specifically, when should you write thank you notes? Write thank you notes to:

- People who speak at your monthly meetings.
- Reporters who contribute to your newsletter.
- Volunteers: After they complete a job or when they reach a major milestone in a long project.
- Officers: After they reach a major milestone in their work or after they complete their term.
- Organizations and individuals who provide support, such as organizations who provide meeting rooms for meetings and experi-

enced professionals who share their hard-earned knowledge with you.

Tips for Writing Thank You Notes

- A thank you note should be personal, indicating that you really noticed the volunteers' work. Consider the following points:
- Avoid form letters, even if you have twenty or thirty volunteers to thank at one time. Take time and thank each individually.
- Be specific. Mention something that would only apply to that person, such as a point made in their presentation or something you appreciated about working with them.
- Mail thank you notes quickly, within 10 business days of the event.

Some people suggest that you mail thank you notes as quickly as 48 hours after the event.

Volunteers want immediate feedback, the longer you delay in sending the thank you note, the less the immediacy. *Excerpted from Resources for Volunteer Leaders of Community Organizations: Tips for Managing Committees. Saul Carliner Copyright 2002. [www.http://saulcarliner.home.att.net/leadership/thankyounotes.htm](http://saulcarliner.home.att.net/leadership/thankyounotes.htm)*

About Us



The *Benelux Meteor* is the authorized unofficial Army newspaper published under the provisions of AR 360-1 for 80th Area Support Group personnel. It is published 25 times a year under exclusive written agreement with the *Stars and Stripes*, Griesheim, Germany. The editorial content is provided by the 80th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office and the 254th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office. Opinions expressed are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the 80th Area Support Group. The *Benelux Meteor* is inserted every other Tuesday in the Benelux edition of the *Stars and Stripes*. Circulation is 3,000. Our mailing address is Editor, Benelux Meteor, HQ 80th ASG, Unit 21419, Public Affairs Office, APO AE 09708. Telephone: DSN 361-5419; fax: DSN 361-5106; civilian telephone prefix: 068-27-

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Policy

- Opinions appear on the Viewpoint page. We invite and encourage letters to the editor, but they must be signed. We will consider withholding the name of the author upon request, but we will not print any anonymous letters.
- We reserve the right to edit letters to make them fit the allotted space, to remove libelous material and to correct grammar. Letters should contribute to the informational interest of the issue in question.
- Articles and photographs may be submitted for consideration but publication and placement depends upon the judgment of the editor.
- Community-related event announcements must use civilian dates and times. Spell out acronyms initially and include a point of contact, telephone number and e-mail address.
- All submissions are subject to editing.

Advertising

- Messages from readers from profit and non-profit organizations which involve money exchange constitutes advertising.
- Rates may be obtained by calling the Stars and Stripes Classified Advertising Department at DSN 349-8477 or civ 0049-61-55-601-447.
- Neither the *Benelux Meteor* staff nor other public affairs person-

nel can accept advertising requests.

- The appearance of advertising, including inserts, does not constitute endorsement of the products or services offered. Everything advertised must be available for purchase, use or patronage, without discrimination.
- Any gambling or lottery requiring payment for chance cannot be advertised as stated in 18 U.S.C. 1302.

Deadline

Copy and photographs are due by noon every other Friday.

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Lt. Col. Deborah P. Broughton.....254th Base Support Battalion
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254th BSB Triborder news

March 25, 2003

Women's contribution recognized

By Sandy Aubrey

GEILENKIRCHEN, Germany – The Triborder Special Emphasis Committee sponsored a Women's Expo recently in celebration of Women's History Month.

March is the designated month for recognizing women and the theme for this year's National Women's History Month, was "Women Pioneering the Future."

For the Expo, the Tri-border committee gathered subject matter experts and representatives to talk on a variety of topics ranging from health and wellness, education, financial management to beauty, relaxation and home products. Members of the Air Force Top Three were on hand with free hot chocolate.

"This was very informative for me. I got tips on money management and some medical questions answered," said Maria Giles.

In 1845, journalist and author Margaret Fuller laid out her hope for the future of American women: "We would have every arbitrary barrier thrown down. We would have every

path laid open to women as freely as to men. If you ask me what offices they may fill, I reply - any, I do not care what case you put; let them be sea captains, if you will."

Almost two centuries later, thanks to women like Harriet Beecher Stowe, Susan B. Anthony, and Jane Addams, who refused to accept oppression as inevitable, women are closer than ever

to realizing Margaret Fuller's dream.

Today women account for nearly half of all workers; they own more than 9 million businesses employing more than 27.5 million workers. Throughout time women have built the foundations of families and communities and contributed immeasurably to society while fighting for equality and recognition.



PHOTO: Sandy Aubrey
Pampered Chef consultant, Darice Burdick, gives Lillbeth Kennedy, Mimsel Riley and Patricia Baker pointers on the product.



PHOTO: Sandy Aubrey
Two of the organizers of the Month of the Military Child and Child Abuse Prevention Month, Erin Rapach and Roshonda Henry-Washington, give Tina Peyton information on the upcoming activities.

Community to celebrate children with activities

By Sandy Aubrey

SCHINNEN, Netherlands – The Tri-border community will join ranks once again, but this time it's to celebrate the Month of the Military Child and Child Abuse Prevention Month.

To heighten awareness, the 254th Base Support Battalion Army Community Services, the Family Support Center at NATO Airbase Geilenkirchen and the AFNorth Battalion are planning activities throughout the month of April.

Based on the premise that any kind of abuse is contrary to military values and is counterproductive to well-being, the organizing committee saw their job as trying to ensure health and harmonious families that contribute to readiness and retention.

The organizers planned activities with different themes for each week in April starting with the signing of the proclamation by the Tri-border commanders.

Throughout the month various activities are planned: scavenger hunt, Easter egg hunts, health fair,

bike rodeo, parenting classes, support group meetings, a three-on-three basketball tournament for kids, and the grand finale will be a big Kinder Fest with the jumpy castle, games, activities, and a barbecue for the whole family.

Because frequent moves and extended family separations can make life especially challenging for children, the organizing committee made a special effort to include activities and events for the whole family.

Additionally, they are encouraging soldiers to spend quality time with their children by reading to them, talking to them, and having family sit-down dinners.

"We've put a lot of work into this and hope it will be a huge success," said Erin Rapach, one of the organizers. She said that it's important to celebrate the military child, show them appreciation for what they do, and to recognize how hard it is for them to be part of the military lifestyle.

For more information about the dates, times and places of the activities, call the Schinnen ACS office at DSN 360-7500.

254th BSB Local Calendar

Community Events

- Triborder community Volunteer of the Year nomination categories, family, youth, military, local national, •Volunteer of the Year and Sponsor of the Year are due to the Installation Volunteer Coordinator's office by March 31, call Teri Ryan at DSN 360-7451.
- The 254th BSB Civilian Fitness Program will be holding pre- and post-assessments March 27, 9 a.m.-noon, at the Schinnen Fitness Center.
- No-Tap Bowling Tournament, March 29, 6 p.m. Schinnen Bowling Center.
- Join the lunchtime adult indoor soccer league, Tuesdays at noon, Schinnen Sports Center, civ 046-443-7561.
- The Breastfeeding Support Group meets March 26 and every fourth Wednesday, ACS Building 39, 1-2 p.m., civ 046-443-7335.
- Step aerobics, Tuesdays 6:30-7:30 p.m., Spinning classes Thursdays, 5:30 p.m. and Tae Bo classes Mondays and Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m.
- Newcomers Orientation, March 28, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Schinnen Sports Center.
- Ladies night out Cosmic bowling, Schinnen Bowling Center, 6 p.m., ladies bowl for \$1.50 per game.
- Adult tennis tournament at the Schinnen Sports Center, May 3-4, noon, singles and double

matches, civ 0031-46-443-7561.

Girl Scout news

•Girl Scout Troop 230 is sponsoring an Activities Camp for toddlers, pre-school and school-age children, March 29, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. There is a two-hour limit for the camp and donations are accepted.

•The Tri-border overseas Girl Scouts are looking for adult volunteers to fill various positions in the organization next year. They also need co-leaders for all age groups in all neighborhoods. Sign up now and get training, call Susan Morris at civ 0031-45-532-4325.

Travel deals from SATO
SATO Travel can plan a fun vacation for you and your family to Greece, Portugal, Spain or Turkey leaving from the Maastricht Airport.

Delft day trip, April 5, 30 euro or \$33, Euro-Disney, April 20, adults 89 euro or \$96, children's fares depend on age and range between 55-80 euro or \$60-\$80. Prices quoted in U.S. dollars are subject to the exchange rate on the day of booking. Call SATO at DSN 360-7570 or civ 046-443-4373.

Youth and Teen activities
civ 0031-45-526-2033 or 0031-46-443-7280

•Torch Club meeting for grades 6-8, March 27, 4-5 p.m., Youth Center, AFNorth, civ 0031-45-526-3595.

•Job ready training for teens, March 27, 5-6 p.m., Schinnen Teen Center.

•"Smart Moves" program for girls grades 6-8, March 27, 4-5 p.m., Youth Services, civ 0031-45-526-3595.

•Keystone meeting (Boys and Girls Club) Schinnen Teen Center, March 26, 5-6 p.m.

•Torch Club middle school, spring-is-in-the-air dance, March 28, Youth Services at AFNorth, Building H603, CYS members 6-8th grades only, 7-9:30 p.m. Entrance is •5, newcomers enter free.

•Schinnen Teen Center is sponsoring a DVD movie night for teens, March 28, 7-11 p.m., civ 0031-45-526-3033.

Classes and courses

•Sponsorship training April 23 and every fourth Wednesday, Schinnen ACS conference room, Building 39, 2-3 p.m., civ 0031-46-443-7512.

Regional HQAFNorth access/exit routes have recently changed. The reconstructed ramp located between Hendrik Camp and the 600 Area at AFNorth is now open to traffic and pedestrians as follows:

Rembrandtstraat Gate: Open on a 24 hour basis.
Access/exit for NATO identity

card holders/Car Rental/Shop 2000 deliveries only.

All other visitors/deliveries, access via Akerstraat gate.
Akerstraat Gate: Gate opens at 7 a.m.

Access/Exit from 7-9 a.m. for NATO identity card holders, authorized visitors, deliveries, pedestrians and bicycles.

Access/Exit from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. for authorized visitors, deliveries, pedestrians and bicycles.

Access/Exit from 4-6 p.m. for NATO identity card holders, authorized visitors, deliveries, pedestrians and bicycles.

Access/Exit from 6-7 p.m. for authorized visitors, deliveries, pedestrians and bicycles.
Gate secured at 7 p.m.

Artists get passionate about their work

By Sandy Aubrey

OBERWESEL, Germany – The competition is fierce, the criticism can be brutal, and coupled with 10- to 12-hour days, meager rations and lots of hard work, it hardly seems like a recipe for fun times.

"This was my third year and I love it."

AFNorth senior Zach Norman and 145 other high school students from Department of Defense Dependent Schools all over Europe participated in Creative Connections Feb. 23-28 and probably wouldn't have changed it for anything.

Students from the Netherlands, Belgium, United Kingdom, Iceland, Turkey, Italy, Spain, and Germany gathered in the quaint village of Oberwesel for a week of intensive workshops geared at challenging and honing their artistic talents and creativity in the performing and visual arts.

"It's given me a chance to grow as a musician because for one week all I do is focus on my music. This isn't possible in a normal school situation," Norman said. He said getting together with other young people who share a passion for



Students who participated in the Way Off Broadway workshop at Creative Connections entertained special guests, parents and friends with their rendition of "Cats".

music and art is an awesome experience.

"This program enhances our students' creative talents because they are around other students who are not only at the top of their field, but also highly motivated and persevering. The exper-

tise and energy exchanged during that week were at a maximum and they are exposed to artists they wouldn't have had access to otherwise," said Kathy TerVeen, AFNorth International School art teacher.

TerVeen also believes Creative Connections comes at a time in students' lives when they are most open to experiences and influences; they want to explore and experience extreme emotions and ideas. She says that once the seed has been planted, the students will hopefully continue the search the rest of their lives, and the arts, more than any other field, provide that.



Princess Wanda, played by Michelle Cadwalader, makes sure she keeps her reputation as the meanest, nastiest girl in the kingdom alive and well.

Hercules embarks on 13th labor, finding a spouse

BRUNSSUM, Netherlands – No doubt about it – heroes and gods were alive and well on the AFNorth stage recently with the production of "Hercules – the Panto" by Julia Banks.

Directed by Leslie Smith, the curtain opened with Hercules, played by William Newby, just completing his 12 labors and about to embark on the thirteenth – finding a wife.

In the process Hercules had to rescue Princess Wanda, played by Michelle Cadwalader. But Wanda's reputation preceded her as the meanest, nastiest girl in the kingdom. To achieve his goal, Hercules and his side-

kick, Narcissus played by Alex Metaxas, had to deal with Medusa, demons, nymphs and the Three Fates called Knit, Purl and Drop-One.

The production was further enhanced by a chorus and cheerleaders egging the audience on to cheer the heroes and boo the villains.

Flipping between ancient and modern times, the play combined intrigue with laughter and the outrageous. Filled with double entendres, puns, and music from Elvis Presley to Shania Twain, the production provided fun, laughter, thrills, spills, glitz and glamour.



PHOTO: Sandy Aubrey

AFNorth sophomore, Zeb Norman studies the painting before him at the art exhibit at Creative Connections.

Among the performing arts workshops there was From Page to Stage, where students learned to write short pieces for the stage in which they act or direct the performance. The Way Off Broadway workshop gave students dance experience and performance from the genre of musical theater. It incorporated singing, acting, choreography, make-up and costumes. The workshops of Melodies, Harmonies and Arrangements and Beyond Hum-Drum assisted students in playing melodies, building harmonies, creating arrangements and learning the playing techniques for a variety of percussion instruments. In Movement, Concepts and Choreography students learned the importance of dance as a means of communicating ideas and life concepts.

In the visual arts category, students

in the Spherical Thinking workshop explored the realm of illusion and impossible realities in color, form and space, as they worked to draw and create polyhedrons and spheres using perspective ranging from one to six points. In Multi-Dimensional Drawing and Mixed Media workshops students used a variety of media and techniques to create works using still life and models. Another visual arts workshop was Video Production. Here students explored techniques in lighting, interviewing, sound mixing, editing and final production, and produced daily presentations of life.

The superintendents of all school districts in Europe, parents, family, and friends gathered Feb. 27 for an evening of art, music and dance, as the students showed off the fruits of their hard work.

Police set up new information desk

By Sandy Aubrey

SCHINNEN, Netherlands – The 254th Base Support Battalion Provost Marshal's office and the Royal Koninklijke Marechaussee (K-Mar), have spearheaded a K-Mar information desk at the Schinnen Military Police station.

The desk is manned Thursdays, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. by Sgts. 1st Class Lou Ruijters and Marcel Lemmens out of the Heerlen K-Mar headquarters. The men share over 40 years of police experience.

The idea, a brainchild of K-Mar Warrant Officer Gerrit Kuipers, was coordinated with Capt. Victoria Benson and Sgt. 1st Class John Hopper of the Provost Marshal's office.

"I think it's a wonderful idea, and a great opportunity to foster better working relations and understanding between the K-Mar and the Schinnen community at-large," Benson said.

The K-Mar desk is able to field questions and concerns regarding a wide variety of regulatory and legal issues, including traffic laws governing accidents and insurance, domestic problems, crime prevention, conse-



Sgt. Marcel Lemmens



Sgt. Lou Ruijters

quences of drinking and driving, problems with neighbors, and at work, and follow-up on anonymous tips. In most cases of consultation, confidentiality can be guaranteed they said.

As an added service, the K-Mar representatives can arrange to inspect a person's home to determine whether or not all appropriate crime prevention measures are in place. These home certification visits are free and are followed-up with a written report with

suggestions for improvement.

"We're here to offer our services and people shouldn't be afraid to come talk to us. We'll try to help as much as possible," Lemmens said.

The program will be evaluated in May to establish its success and determine whether or not to continue as-is, or extend or reduce office hours.

To talk to a K-Mar representative, call DSN 360-7368 or stop by the Military Police station in Building 2.

80th ASG/SHAPE

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March 25, 2003

Soldiers pay respect in Netherlands cemetery

MARGRATEN, Netherlands — Twenty-seven Soldiers from the 80th Area Support Group took a day off from their busy schedules to visit the World War II Netherlands American Cemetery and Memorial in Margraten, Netherlands and the National Liberation Museum 1944-1945 at Groesbeek, Netherlands.

At the cemetery, the soldiers learned the history of the American Battle Monuments Commission and U.S. military action in the Netherlands from retired 1st Sgt. Frank Schwind who is the superintendent of the cemetery.

Afterwards the soldiers climbed the Memorial Tower to get a bird's eye view of the 8,301 white crosses and Stars of David neatly aligned on 65 acres.

The tall Memorial Tower can be seen before reaching the cemetery. From the cemetery entrance, visitors approached through the Court of Honor with its pool reflecting the chapel tower. The visitors' building is on the right and the museum with its three engraved operations maps describing the achievements of U.S. Armed Forces in the area during World War II is on the left. At the base of the tower facing the reflecting pool is a statue representing the grieving mother of her lost son.

The cemetery is the only U.S. cemetery in the Netherlands. The cemetery's site has a rich historical background, lying near the famous Cologne-Boulogne highway, originally built by the Romans and used by Caesar during his campaign in that area. The highway was also used by Charlemagne, Charles V, Napoleon, and Kaiser Wilhelm II.

In May 1940, Hitler's legions advanced over the route of the old Ro-



Frank Schwind, superintendent of the World War II Netherlands American Cemetery and Memorial, briefs 80th Area Support Group on combat operations in Netherlands.

man highway, overwhelming the Low Countries. In September 1944, German troops once more used the highway for the withdrawal from the countries occupied for four years.

The walls on either side of the Court of Honor contain the Tablets of the Missing on which are recorded the names of 1,723 American missing who gave their lives in the service of their country and who rest in unknown graves.

Beyond the chapel and tower is the burial area which is divided into six-

teen plots. The headstones are set in long curves. A wide tree-lined mall leads to the flag staff which crowns the crest.

The cemetery is open daily to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. When the cemetery is open to the public, a staff member is on duty in the Visitors' Building to answer questions and escort relatives to grave and memorial sites.

In the afternoon the soldiers received a class on the value of leadership and compassion from Father

Gerard Thuring, the curator of the National Liberation Museum 1944-1945 followed, by a guided tour of the museum and adjacent World War II drop zone.

The museum is 10 kilometers southeast of Nijmegen, Netherlands.

In the museum, visitors live through the period preceding the war, experience the occupation, celebrate the liberation and witness the rebuild-

ing of the Netherlands and Europe after the war.

The liberation is depicted using smells, interactive presentations, dioramas, models, original films and sound fragments.

The museum shows both young and old the current value and importance of democracy, freedom and human rights, according to Thuring.

Law office provides tax service

CASTEAU, Belgium -- The Northern Law Center's Tax Assistance Office provide free tax services to all service members, their dependents, DOD civilians and retirees.

Taxpayers will once again be able to file their federal tax returns electronically.

Taxpayers can also have their state returns prepared at the Tax Assistance Office. The Tax Assistance Office will be open for business until June 27.

The Tax Assistance Office has two locations. The main location is in Building 318, Room 221, on SHAPE. The satellite office is at the NATO Support Activity in Brussels, Building 4, Room 318.

The Tax Assistance Office on SHAPE provides tax services on a walk-in and appointment basis Monday thru Friday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The Tax Assistance Office at NSA in Brussels is open for business on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tax assistance at NSA is by appointment only.

Taxpayers should bring the following items with them to prevent

delays in processing their returns and in receiving their refunds:

- ID card, W-2s, and 1099 forms
- Social Security cards for themselves and their dependents
- Void check or bank account cards for direct deposit
- Copy of last year's tax return (if available)

If filing jointly, taxpayers should bring their spouse or a power of attorney if spouse is absent.

Appointments are recommended for taxpayers with the following:

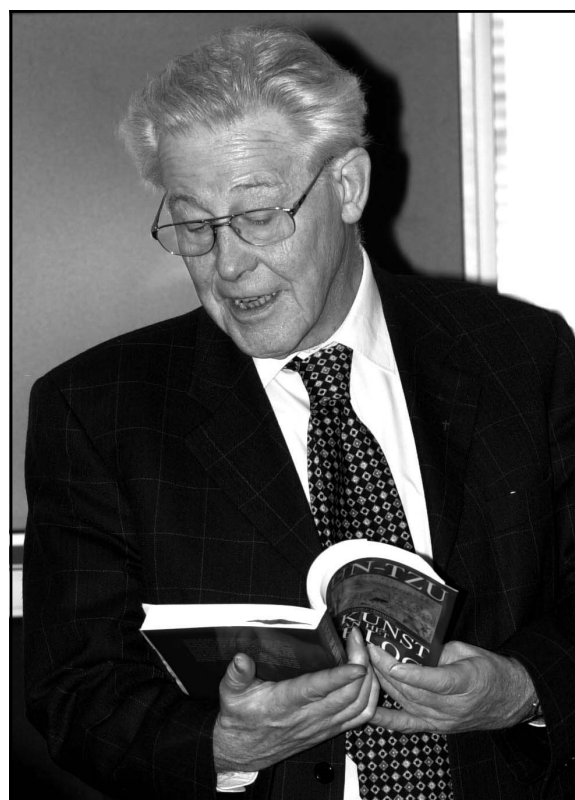
- Rental property
- Sale of stock/mutual funds
- Itemized deductions
- Foreign tax issues
- Other complicated matters

For tax appointments at SHAPE call DSN 423-4906 or CIV 065-44-4906. For tax appointments at NSA, call DSN 423-4868 or CIV 065-44-4868.

All tax centers have the necessary federal and state income tax forms and special powers of attorney if couples file jointly and one spouse is absent.



Pvt. Elisha VanDell, 80th ASG chaplain's office, steps out of a diorama depicting airborne operations over the Netherlands.



Holding a copy of Sun Tzu's Art of War, Father Gerard Thuring talks about the value of leadership and compassion.

PHOTOS: Troy Darr

SHAPE and Chièvres Community Calendar

Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Newcomers interested in learning more about living in Belgium can get their questions answered by Welcoming Everyone to Belgium volunteers at the American Lounge in Hotel Maisieres every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to noon. Call civ 065 326252.

Catch the latest NBA action on the big screen television at the Prime Time Lounge on Daumerie Caserne. Call DSN 361-5540 for the schedule.

Army Community Service

April is designated as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" and the "Month of the Military Child." In recognition, ACS will sponsor the second annual "Children's Wellness Fair." This year's event is scheduled to take place April 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Chièvres Activities Center (CAC). Call DSN 423-5263 for more information.

Family Advocacy offers a Parent Support Program for expectant and new parents. The program provides a wide variety of service to help parents provide a safe and nurturing environment for their child. Call DSN 423-5324 for more information.

Learning about Investing is offered every second and fourth Thursday from noon to 1 p.m. in the Building 318 conference room at SHAPE.

ACS is looking for foster care providers. For more information call DSN 423-4352.

The Newcomers Brief is the second Thursday of each month at the Hotel Maisieres, 8:30 a.m. to noon. Call DSN 423-5324

A Single Parent Support Group is held Wednesdays from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. in Building 318, Room 118. Call civ 065 44.42.74.

Exceptional Family Member Program is recruiting for caring individuals who will be trained and certified to provide respite care for special needs children and adults. This will provide the primary family

caregivers time for appointments, an evening out, or shopping. All fees for care are decided upon between the family and provider. Call Mary Prince at DSN 423-7461 for more information.

Red Cross

Call DSN 423-4008 to find out about CPR and first aid classes, Babysitter training and HIV/AIDS Awareness training. All training is held at the Red Cross in Building 318, SHAPE.

SHAPE Entertainment Center

Performances of *My Fair Lady* will be held March 28, 7 p.m.; March 29, 2 and 8p.m.; March 30, 3 p.m.; April 4, 7 p.m.; April 5, 2 and 8 p.m.; April 6, 3 p.m. Reservations for these performances are recommended.

Hack and Slash, a comedy sword fighting duo, will perform April 7 at 7:30 p.m. See Inside Brussels pages for the story.

Salsa Dance is back on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

For information about performances call DSN 423-3312. Reservations can be made between 2 and 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

SHAPE Arts and Crafts Center

The center offers dozens of child and adult classes ranging from Basic Ceramics to Turkish Foil Craft. For more information call DSN 423-4680.

Back route from SHAPE to Chièvres

Military vehicles are not authorized to use the Chemin du Prince from Dec. 1 to March 31 except for mission essential and emergency official business. Only security missions, MP patrols, accident investigations, personal property quality control inspections and housing inspections performed by the Housing Office are authorized. Military vehicle operators who break the policy may be punished.

Post Exchange

AAFES hosts a Children's Hour every Wednesday from 1:30-2:30 p.m. The event features crafts, stories and drawings for prizes.

Child and Youth Services

CYS needs volunteer coaches for baseball, softball, soccer, flag football, basketball and cheerleading. Head coaches receive discounts for volunteering. CYS fee for the first child is waived and a second child receives a 50percent discount. For more information contact the Child and Youth Services sports staff at Building 209 or call DSN 423-5612/3874.

Health Care

The SHAPE Healthcare Facility offers self care classes. Call DSN 423-5948 for an appointment.

SHAPE Transition Office

The transition office plans to host two events April 30. A pre-retirement briefing for those retiring from the military is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. to noon. This briefing is geared toward service members who intend to retire from the military. A Veterans Administration Briefing that covers all the benefits available to veterans from the VA is scheduled for 1 to 4 p.m. If you are active military, separated from service or retired, this briefing is for you. Spouses are encouraged to attend these events. Contact the transition office at DSN 423-4575 for information or sign-up.

Women's History Month

Theme: "Women Pioneering the Future"

April 29: Diane Jones, wife of SACEUR, Gen. James Jones, will speak about the Exceptional Family Member Program with Mary Prince, Exceptional Family Member Program Manager, Army Community Services, at the SHAPE Officers Club, 11:30 a.m.

The princess of Chimay will be the guest speaker at a Women's History Month luncheon on her history and change of events during her responsibilities as princess. She will be introduced by Timothy Alderman, civilian personnel officer. Time and location will be announced.

Point of contact for these events is Mary Ramsey, 80th ASG EEO Officer, DSN 361-5281.

Commissary

The Chièvres commissary changed it's hours to 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday on March 16

Spring Cleaning

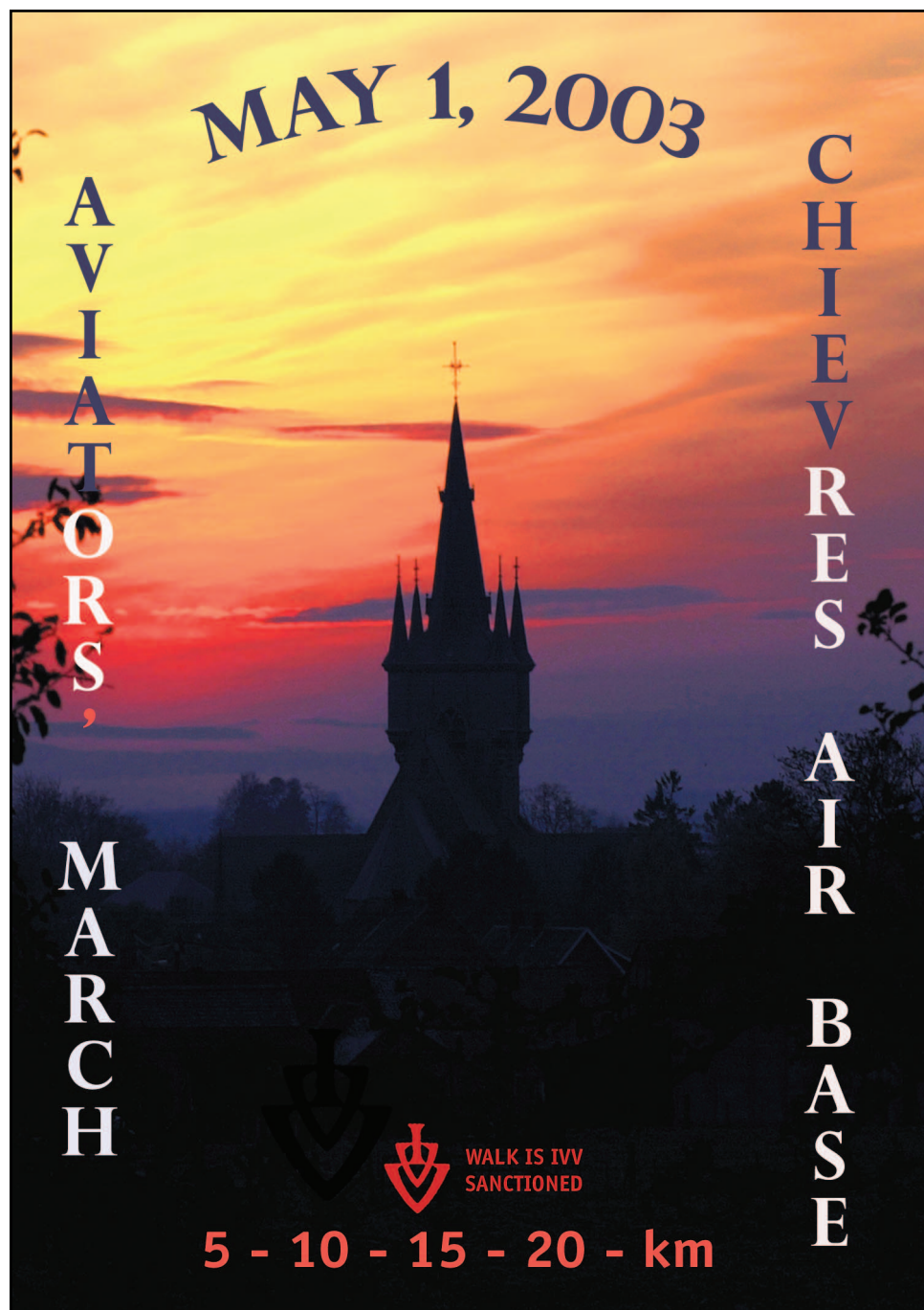
The U.S. family housing area 2003 Spring Cleanup starts in April.. SHAPE areas: Buildings 253, 301, 302, 305, 318, 319 and 353 and the Maisieres Hotel, Chièvres Air Base and Caserne Daumerie will have cleanup on April 28 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Ghlin/Lens housing area will have clean up on April 29 from 1-4:30 p.m..Green Park housing area will have clean up on April 30 from 1-4:30 p.m. Casteau/ Maisieres housing areas will have cleanup on May 2 from 1-4:30 p.m. Housing Area Coordinators will provide additional information. Point of contact for the community cleanup is Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald Joseph at DSN 361-1320.

Laurels and Accolades

Child and Youth Services Volunteers of the Quarter

Last Quarter: 6-12, Micelle Trotti; 13-15, Katie Bell and Jenny Troxell, 16-18, Diminique Morneau;

This Quarter: 6-12, Katie Troxell; 1-5, Alper Diner; 16-18, Michael Carter.



Photos: Sandy Ramey

2002 AVIATORS' MARCH A GLIMPSE AT THE PAST...



CHIEVRES, Belgium — The 80th Area Support Group in association with the Chièvres volksmarch club “Le Roitelet” will hold its fourth annual Aviators’ March at the air base here on May 1.

Last year more than 900 walkers participated and enjoyed the beauty of the Chièvres countryside. The 5, 10, 15, 20 kilometer walking routes follow historical World War II sites,

and panels in four languages will detail the history of that particular area. On the air base itself, there will be activities to include a military vehicle display and food and beverage vendors.

Departure for the IVV sanctioned march is from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Hangar 4. Access to the base is through Gate #1 near Brugelette.

Pre-registration is mandatory for those who do not have a valid installation pass or a U.S. or SHAPE ID card.

For pre-registration please call 068-275419 during duty hours.